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DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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October 4, 2002

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Paul Baker, Senior Reclamation Biologist 

RE: Site Inspection, Ridgepoint Mining Company, Duke Mine, S/037/096, San Juan County, Utah

Date of Inspection: August 16, 2002  
Time of Inspection: 8:45 to 9:15 a.m.  
Conditions: Clear, 70's  
Participants: Doug Jensen and Paul Baker, DOGM

**Purpose of Inspection:**

There was no particular reason for the inspection. We were in the area and wanted to see the site.

**Getting to the site:**

About 22 miles north of Monticello on U.S Highway 191, there is a road leading west toward the Needles Overlook. Take this road for about 7 miles, and just before Soup Rock, there is a good unpaved road that leads north. Take this road for about 1-3/4 miles and turn right toward Hatch Rock. At Hatch Rock, there are a few residences and a guest ranch. The mine is southwest of the rock.

**Observations:**

Various views of the site are shown in Photos 1 through 4. The disturbance consists primarily of several piles of sand/dirt and a frac tank trailer, and the total disturbed area is no more than about two acres. As shown in the photos, there are numerous weeds growing among the sand and dirt piles.

**Conclusions and Recommendations:**

According to annual reports, the site has not been active since 1997, but the operator has continued to pay the permit fee and to submit the annual report. I could see no particular environmental or public safety problem that would result from the site remaining inactive, but I will attempt to contact the operator to determine what the future plans are.

Reclamation of this site would be relatively easy. The frac tank would need to be removed and the site graded and seeded.

jb

cc: Will Stokes, SITLA

Jeffrey Wilson, Ridgepoint Mining

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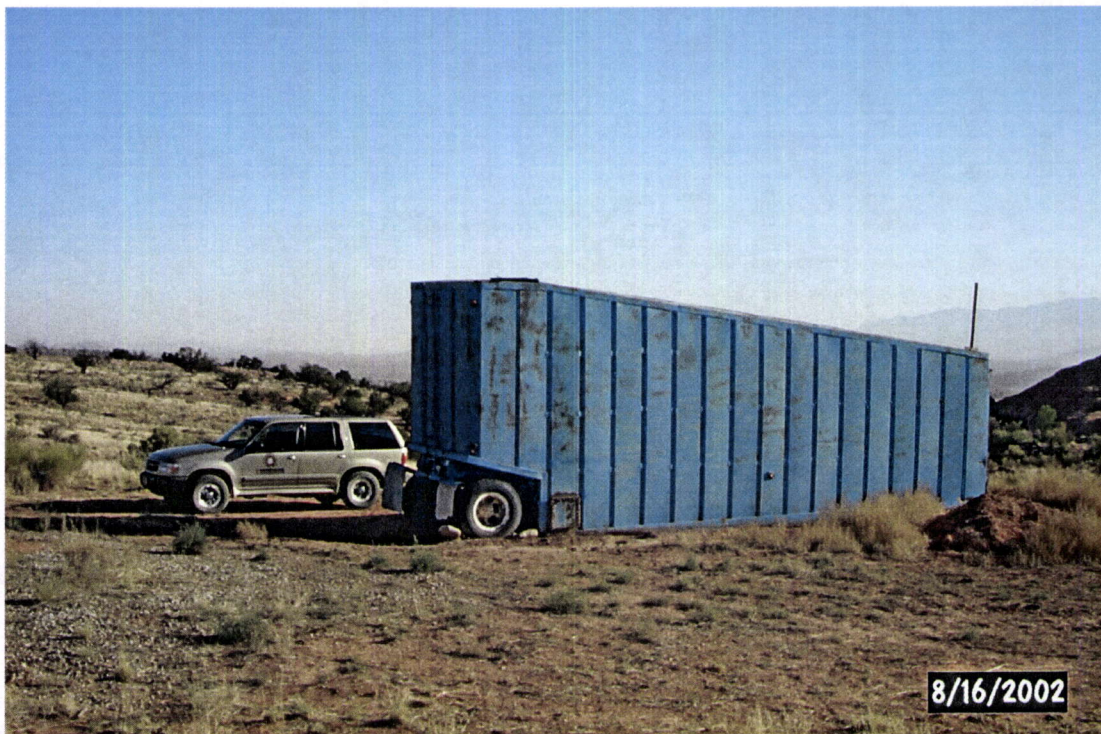


# ATTACHMENT

Photographs  
S/037/096  
Duke Project

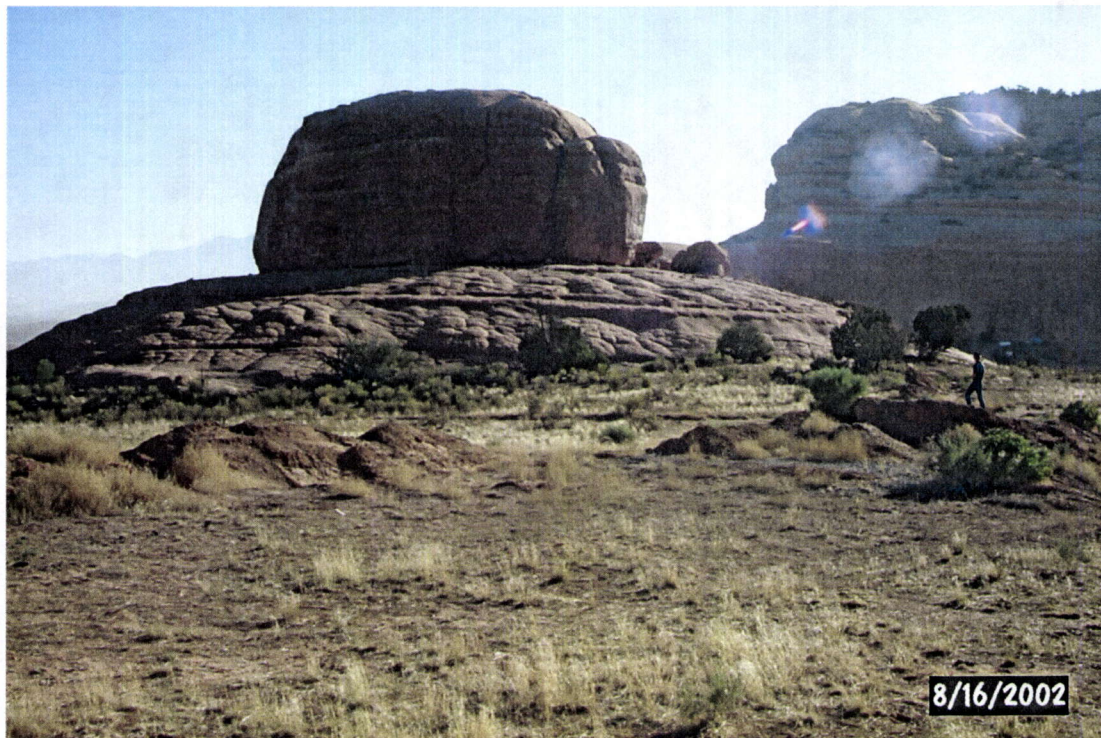


**Photo 1. Piles of sand/dirt.**



**Photo 2. Frac tank.**





**Photo 3.**



**Photo 4. Hatch Rock is in the background to the right.**